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May 6, 2014

STATEMENT REGARDING DEATHS AT LOCKERBY MINE IN SUDBURY

On behalf of Unifor members and staff across this country I want to extend my deepest sympathies to the families of the two contract drillers who lost their lives this morning at the Lockerby Mine near Sudbury, Ontario.

Our thoughts are also with the rest of the workers at the Mine, the members of Mine Mill Local 598 - Unifor and the Taurus contract workers, who are undoubtedly shaken by the incident. With only 120 workers at Lockerby, working side by side doing grueling work, there is a strong bond among the workers in a mine that is unlike any other. The ripple effects of this tragedy will certainly be felt throughout the community as well.

The health and safety co-chairperson of Mine Mill Local 598 - Unifor has requested to be a part of the joint investigation into the incident and the union is committed to supporting all of the workers and their families at this time.

Unifor is committed to improving health and safety conditions for all workers in Canada. Today's incident highlights the importance of Ontario's Mining Review, aimed at improving the health and well-being of workers in the mining industry. The review, announced in December 2013, came as a result of the death of two workers, Jordan Chenier and Jordan Fram, at one of Vale's Sudbury mines in 2011.

It is our sincere hope that this review will result in concrete plans to improve safety in mining industry and prevent future tragedies such as the one today at Lockerby.

In solidarity,



Jerry Dias
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